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Atty. Dkt. No. 053466-0395

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Noboru MAKI et al.

Title: HBV PRECORE PROTEIN HAVING A PARTICLE-FORMING ABILITY

Appl. No.: 10/526,744

Filing Date: 03/25/2005

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 1645

Confirmation Number: 7902

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents are in English and were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. A copy of the Supplementary European Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

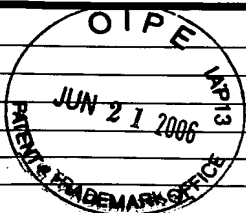
Date June 21, 2006

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: June 21, 2006 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/526,744</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>03/25/2005</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Noboru MAKI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>1645</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>053466-0395</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/526,744	Filing Date	03/25/2005	First Named Inventor	Noboru MAKI	Group Art Unit	1645	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	053466-0395
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	C1	BETERAMS et al., "Packaging of up to 240 subunits of a 17 kDa nuclease into the interior of recombinant hepatitis B virus capsids", FEBS Letters, 2000, Vol. 481, No. 2, pgs. 169-176.	
	C2	BIRNBAUM et al., "Hepatitis B Virus Nucleocapsid Assembly: Primary Structure Requirements in the Core Protein", Journal of Virology, 1990, Vol. 64, No. 7, pgs. 3319-3330.	
	C3	DATABASE UniProt, XP-002378531, Database Accession No. Q89714.	
	C4	KIMURAI et al., "Hepatitis B Virus DNA-negative Dane Particles Lack Core Protein but Contain a 22-kDa Precore Protein without C-terminal Arginine-rich Domain", The Journal of Biological Chemistry, 2005, Vol. 280, No. 23, pgs. 21713-21719.	
	C5	MILICH et al., "The Hepatitis Nucleocapsid as a Vaccine Carrier Moiety", Annals of the New York Academy of Science, 1995, Vol. 754, pgs. 187-201.	
	C6	NASSAL, "Novel molecular approaches toward therapy of chronic hepatitis B", Archives of Virology, 1997, Vol. 142, No. 3, pgs. 611-628.	
	C7	SCHLICHT et al., "The Quaternary Structure, Antigenicity, and Aggregational Behavior of the Secretory Core Protein of Human Hepatitis B Virus Are Determined by Its Signal Sequence", Journal of Virology, 1991, Vol. 65, No. 12, pgs. 6817-6825.	
	C8	ULRICH et al., "Core Particles of Hepatitis V Virus as Carrier for Foreign Epitopes", Advances in Virus Research, 1998, Vol. 50, pgs. 141-182.	
	C9	WASENAUER, et al., "A Cysteine and a Hydrophobic Sequence in the Noncleaved Portion of the Pre-C Leader Peptide Determine the Biophysical Properties of the Secretory Core Protein (HBe Protein) of Human Hepatitis B Virus", Journal of Virology, 1992, Vol. 66, No. 9, pgs. 5338-5346.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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